

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEL AV 09998 051133Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00
NSCE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03
PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 SAA-01 SES-02 CA-01 /057 W
-----113804 051138Z /15

O 051121Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4693
INFO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIAE
USICA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEL AVIV 9998

DEPT FOR NEA/P

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SHUM SOPN IS
SUBJ: DETROIT NEWS COLUMN OF AUG 1 CONCERNING ALLEGED ISRAELI
TORTURE OF WEST BANK PALESTINIANS

REF.: USINFO R 032119Z AUG 78

FOLLOWING ARE SUGGESTED REPLIES TO BE USED ONLY ON
AN IF ASKED BASIS WITH RESPECT TO SUBJECT NEWS
STORY. UNLESS DEPARTMENT WISHES TO MAKE MODIFICA-
TIONS, EMBASSY WILL USE SAME ANSWERS TO ANY QUERIES
MADE HERE OR IN JERUSALEM. PLEASE ADVISE IF FOLLOWING
IS SATISFACTORY:

Q. ACCORDING TO A RECENT NEWS STORY (IN THE DETROIT NEWS
OF AUGUST 1), THE TREATMENT OF PRISONERS (FROM
THE WEST BANK, BY THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT) IS "GETTING
WORSE." THIS STORY SAYS THAT THE US EMBASSY IN TEL
AVIV SUBMITTED A REPORT ON ISRAELI TORTURE CALLED
"JERUSALEM 1500" WHICH INCLUDED INTERVIEWS WITH TWO
DOZEN PALESTINIANS APPLYING TO THE JERUSALEM CONSULATE
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FOR VISAS, WHICH, THE STORY SAYS, ONE OFFICIAL IN
WASHINGTON SAID WAS "UTTERLY DAMMING." COULD YOU TELL US
IF THIS STORY IS ACCURATE?

A. AMERICAN EMBASSIES AND CONSULATES AROUND THE WORLD
ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR PROVIDING THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WITH INFORMATION ON HUMAN RIGHTS, AMONG OTHER MATTERS. THIS

MATERIAL IS THEN EVALUATED IN THE DEPARTMENT WHICH IS REQUIRED TO SUBMIT AN ANNUAL REPORT TO CONGRESS ON HUMAN RIGHTS PRACTICES IN ALL COUNTRIES RECEIVING ANY FORM OF AMERICAN ECONOMIC OR MILITARY ASSISTANCE. WE ARE NOT IN A POSITION TO COMMENT ON REPORTED COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN THE DEPARTMENT AND FOREIGN SERVICE POSTS.

Q. WHAT ABOUT JERUSALEM 1500?

A. I REPEAT THAT I AM NOT IN A POSITION TO COMMENT ON REPORTED COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN THE DEPARTMENT AND FOREIGN SERVICE POSTS.

Q. HAS THE SUBSTANCE OF THESE VISA INTERVIEWS BEEN REPORTED TO THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT?

A. WE ARE NOT ABLE TO COMMENT ON THE ALLEGED REPORT; HOWEVER, AS WE HAVE SAID ON PREVIOUS OCCASIONS, THE U S GOVERNMENT HAS FROM TIME TO TIME DISCUSSED THE SUBJECT OF HUMAN RIGHTS ON THE WEST BANK WITH THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT. LEWIS

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Remarks:
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